



RECEIVED

JAN 07 2002

Technology Center 2100

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 21 remain in the application. A marked up copy of the amended paragraph of the Specification is attached hereto as Appendix A.

The Specification has been amended on pages 12 and 13 to correct these pages to correspond with the drawings. It is respectfully submitted that the Specification, as amended, is acceptable and does not contain new matter.

Attached to this Amendment is a copy of the drawing with corrections in red corresponding to amendments to the Specification for the Examiner's approval. Formal drawings will be submitted once the application has been allowed. It is respectfully submitted that the attached drawings are acceptable.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in a condition for allowance, which allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
Daniel H. Bliss  
Reg. No. 32,398

BLISS McGLYNN & NOLAN, P.C.  
2075 West Big Beaver Road, Suite 600  
Troy, Michigan 48084  
(248) 649-6090

Date: November 1, 2001

Attorney Docket: 0693.00242  
Ford Disclosure No.: 200-0664

APPENDIX A

RECEIVED

JAN 07 2002

Technology Center 2100

VERSION OF THE SPECIFICATION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW THECHANGES

Please replace the pending paragraph beginning on page 12, line 6 through page 13, line 2 with the following:

From block 108, the method advances to bubble [110] 116 and moves the part from the fixture to block [114] 118 and tests the part. The user 12 tests the logic by forcing a state in the control logic to test all exception logic. For example, the method tests for status as to whether the part is present or not present. After block [114] 118, the method then ends. It should be appreciated that part locations have exit conditions that are interlocked. It should also be appreciated that a record exists with each part generated and that the individual resources can contribute information to the part record (such as an action performed or another part being bound to it). It should further be appreciated that the unique part record can be tested as it traverses the workcell, which allows subsystem capabilities such as quality and routing to be exercised. It should yet further be appreciated that the method may incorporate unique serialized parts, part types, and part assemblies. It should still further be appreciated that the method is an iterative process between design and simulation carried out on the computer 14 by the user 12.

